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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/779,139	02/08/2001	Tetsujiro Kondo	450100-03001	1450

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EXAMINER

COUSO, YON JUNG

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/779,139

Applicant(s)

KONDO ET AL.

Examiner

Yon Couso

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 February 2001.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 February 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4.5.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kondo et al (US Patent No. 5,852,470).

As per claims 1, 11, 21, 22, and 23, Kondo teaches an information processing apparatus, a method, and a recording medium comprising: a class classifier for classifying an aimed-at data item into one of plurality of classes specified in advance, according to a plurality of data items disposed around the aimed-at data item (column 5, lines 2-13); a memory for storing conversion information for the aimed-at data item for each class (column 5, lines 13-16); and a converter for converting the aimed-at data item to a data item having a higher quality, according to the conversion information (column 5, lines 17-32), wherein the class classifier classifies the aimed-at data into a different class according to whether the aimed-at data item is missing (column 5, lines 25-28).

As per claims 2 and 12, Kondo teaches the conversion information is information used for generating the aimed-at data item according to the plurality of data items disposed around the aimed-at data item, for a missing class in which the aimed-at data item is missing, and the conversion information is information used for converting the aimed-at data item to a data item having a higher quality, for a non-missing class in which the aimed-at data item is not missing (column 5, lines 17-32).

As per claims 3 and 13, Kondo teaches the conversion information is information used for converting the aimed-at data item to a data item having reduced noise (column 8, lines 30-32).

As per claims 4 and 14, Kondo teaches the conversion information is information obtained by learning achieved in advance (column 7, line 27-column 8, line 60).

As per claims 5 and 15, Kondo teaches the conversion information is prediction coefficients used for a linear or non-linear, or a first order or high-order estimation equation (equation 4).

As per claims 6 and 16, Kondo teaches the class classifier classifies the aimed-at data item into one of the plurality of classes specified in advance. According to a class tap which includes the plurality of data items disposed around the aimed-at data item (column 5, lines 60-67 and column 6, lines 48-61).

As per claims 7 and 17, Kondo teaches the converter converts the aimed-at data item to a data item having a higher quality, according to a prediction tap corresponding to the class into which the aimed-at data item has been classified (column 6, line 62-column 7, line 26).

As per claims 8 and 18, Kondo teaches the class classifier classifies the aimed-at data item into one of the plurality of classes specified in advance, according to a plurality of data items disposed spatially around the aimed-at data item (column 5, line 51-59).

As per claims 9 and 19, Kondo teaches the class classifier classifies the aimed-at data item into one of the plurality of classes specified in advance, according to a

plurality of data items disposed along the time axis around the aimed-at data item  
(column 5, lines 41-47).

As per claims 10 and 20, Kondo teaches the aimed-at data item is image data  
(video signal S1 in figure 4 and column 5, lines 5-10).

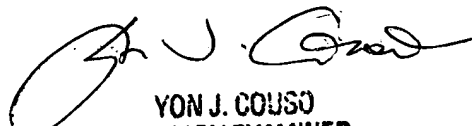
2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to  
applicant's disclosure.

Kondo et al (US Patent No. 5,841,375) and Kondo (US Patent No. 5,739,873) are  
also cited.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the  
examiner should be directed to Yon Couso whose telephone number is (703) 305-4779.  
The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am –5:00 pm from Monday to Friday

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's  
supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta, can be reached on (703) 308-5246. The fax phone number  
for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or  
proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-  
3800.



YON J. COUSO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Yjc

March 16, 2004